

# Research Project – What is the Future of Humanity?

## Overview

This is a multiple-step project that will draw upon all of the information and skills you have learned this semester. You will do research, collect and interpret data, and present your findings in writing. The topic and question you choose should look at some aspect of where you think humanity is heading. This should also look at what is going on now, and what used to occur in Canada and around the world.

## Expectations

This assignment will focus on expectations:

- demonstrate an understanding of the social forces that influence and shape behaviour as described by anthropologists, psychologists, and sociologists;
- analyze socialization patterns from the perspectives of anthropology, psychology, and sociology.
- identify social institutions common to many different cultures;
- compare how selected social institutions function in a variety of cultures;
- demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics of groups in Canadian society as identified;
- analyse the psychological impact of group cohesion and group conflict on individuals, groups, and communities;
- conduct research to determine the critical differences and similarities among the approaches and concepts of anthropology, psychology, and sociology, and summarize their findings;
- use appropriate social science research methods effectively and ethically;
- effectively communicate the results of their inquiries.

Additional expectations may be covered as well, depending on what topic the student chooses.

## Process

- ❑ Choose a topic from the list provided
- ❑ Once you have chosen a topic, formulate a question and a hypothesis that can be answered through research and the collection of data that looks at the future of humanity and society. You should also look at what has happened in the past and what is currently happening now. You should, interview, conduct research, or observe local people.
- ❑ Conduct background research as appropriate (you can't start early enough). You could start by making a mind map to guide your thinking and what aspects you are going to look at. You should also use the Annotation Notes to record the information from each of your research sources. You must include a minimum of 4 sources, 2 must be a primary sources including at least 1 journal article.
- ❑ Conference with you teacher and submit your Annotation Notes for review. This is a good opportunity to make sure you are on the right path for success, and to get any questions answered you might have. The teacher will also remind you if you are falling behind or if you are on schedule to complete the activity on time (5-8 weeks before the due date).

**Culminating Activity**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- ❑ Using the Inquiry Process, design an experiment or other data collection method and produce some primary data. You could also survey, conduct an observation, or use a case study, but the latter two will require at least 4 weeks of detailed notes for it to count. The data you collect, your organized results, and the conclusions you have made should be present in your final presentation. Consider this another source of evidence to support your ideas. (5-8 weeks before the due date).
- ❑ Submit an outline/draft of your written work. Your final presentation will be ran like a seminar, where you are educating the rest of the class about your topic and where it is heading. Your seminar should:
  - Be 30 minutes in length
  - Attend a pre-seminar conference with Mr. Jason to go over details of seminar (also provide me with a rough outline of a powerpoint/presentation)
  - Attend a post-seminar conference with Mr. Jason to go over how seminar went
  - Provide an abstract or overview of topic
  - **Should address:**
  - How does this issue impact society?
  - What are the issues that surround this topic?
  - What can be done to fix this issue/trend?
  - Provide a handout for the class with key information
  - Show the results of your research
  - Reference Page
- ❑ Have peers or parents edit and proof read your assignment. Take advantage of peer editing; there is no excuse for poor grammar. Keep these important concepts in mind when peer-editing:
  - Is the argument or information valid, and is it supported with good reasons?
  - Is the support from a reliable source?
  - Are there grammatical or spelling errors?
- ❑ You may also want to have a second or third edit as well, but there will be class time for at least 1 edit
- ❑ (1-2 weeks before the due date)
- ❑ Present any last minute questions or problems to your teacher (1 week before due date)
- ❑ Print final copy
- ❑ Submit presentation on due date. **DUE DATE: MAY 27, 2013**

*Formatives* --There will be periodic check-ins for the above formative processes. I expect these to be done. I will remind you of upcoming due dates and such, but if you stay on top of things, it will definitely cut down on your stress at the end of the year.

**Topics**

**Drinking and Driving** – EX – While drinking and driving was historically common place, recent changes to laws have significantly decreased both the scientific and social acceptance of drinking and driving. This trend is likely to continue...

**Terrorism** – EX – What motivates people have to commit acts of terror, rather than other more peaceful demonstrations?

**Family** – EX – The concept of what a family should look like in North America has changed over the past 50 years. What will it look like in the future and is this change for the better or worse?

**Employment** – EX – The workforce continues to change in both its appearance and its composition. What will it look like in the future and is this change for the better or worse?

**Child Labour** – EX – Child labour in developing countries was prevalent in the 1980's, 1990's and 2000's, and continues to be common place. More and more however, consumers are becoming more conscientious about where and how products are made. What impact will this have on our economy locally and globally?

**Marketing to Children** – EX – Mass media and advertising used to be directed at people who had the largest disposable incomes – namely 20-30 year olds. What has the impact been from advertisers and media targeting younger and younger populations?

**Violence and TV/Video Games** – EX – North American children have been playing violent games for years (Cops & Robbers, Cowboys and Indians, Red Rover), but has the recent addition of violent video games pushed the accessibility of extreme violence too far?

**Bullying** – EX – What are the social consequences of bullying – Should we protect all children and give them as safe a place to learn as possible? Or, should children be encouraged to solve differences on their own?

**Divorce** – EX – How have families, and society in general, been affected by the ever increasing rates of divorce?

**Dating and Sex** – EX – People are being exposed to sex at a younger and younger age, both in positive (health classes in school) and negative ways (images and sounds through media sources). What impact does this have on society and what, if any, boundaries will exist in the future?

**Green Revolution** – EX – How have environmental changes and concerns affected individuals' and society's attitudes and thinking towards the environment?

**Cheating** – EX – Technology has made cheating easier for countless students currently enrolled in high school. What (if any) moral changes have occurred that also encourage "cheating" in society?

**Human Rights** – EX – With an ever growing global community and cultural diffusion, is it only a matter of time before all countries around the globe have similar cultures or ideas about what is right and wrong? How have human rights played a part in displaying this?

**Technological Dependence** – EX – 10,000 years ago humans relied on only the very basic of technology, but it was necessary for them to evolve and progress as a species. Are we any more or less dependant on technology today? What will happen on our technological dependence in the future?

**Mental Illness** – EX – Mental illness used to be something that was often hidden or denied because there was a fear surrounding people who had mental illness. Today we treat mental illness like many other illnesses. Has society changed their opinion of mental illness? What does this mean for the future?

HSP3M  
**Culminating Activity**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

HSP3M

**Culminating Activity**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Research Component: Annotation worksheet (Formative)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Source Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Publication Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

City of Pub.: \_\_\_\_\_

Pages Used: \_\_\_\_\_

Website Title: \_\_\_\_\_

File Path: http://\_\_\_\_\_

**Summary Data:** (Answer: What information will you use from this source? *You may want to attach extra sheets of paper.*)

**Personal Reaction:** (What is your opinion about this information?)

**Feature of Source:** (Why is this a useful or trustworthy source?)

**Research Component: Annotation worksheet (Formative)**

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**Culminating Activity**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

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HSP3M  
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